Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for the manufacture of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid calcium salt, which process comprises mixing ~~of~~ a solution of calcium chloride with a solution of a water-soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid, wherein the solution of calcium chloride is added to the solution of a water-soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid at a temperature of 30 to 45°C ~~process parameters are selected to give a product which demonstrates improved efficiency of filtration~~.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1, wherein the addition time is 5 to 60 minutes ~~comprising mixing of a solution of calcium chloride with a solution of a water-soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid such that the addition temperature is selected to give a product which demonstrates improved efficiency of filtration~~.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1 or claim 2, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein after the addition of the calcium chloride solution, the mixture is stirred for a hold time of at least 10 minutes ~~temperature is 30-45°C~~.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1, which comprises adding the ~~any preceding claim comprising mixing of a~~ solution of calcium chloride to the ~~with a~~ solution of a water-soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid over 5 to

60 minutes at a temperature of 30 to 45°C, holding the mixture at a temperature of 30 to 45°C for at least 10 minutes,

filtering, optionally washing, and drying the resultant product ~~such that the addition time is selected to give a product which demonstrates improved efficiency of filtration~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 4, wherein the temperature of the mixture during the hold time is the addition temperature ~~any preceding claim wherein the addition time is 5 to 60 minutes~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1 or claim 4, wherein the addition temperature is 32 to 43°C ~~any preceding claim comprising mixing of a solution of calcium chloride with a solution of a water soluble salt of (E) 7 [4 (4 fluorophenyl) 6 isopropyl 2 [methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyri midin 5 yl](3R,5S) 3,5 dihydroxyhept 6 enoic acid such that the hold time is selected to give a product which demonstrates improved efficiency of filtration~~.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 6, wherein the addition temperature is 35 to 42°C ~~any preceding claim wherein the hold time is at least 10 minutes~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 7, wherein the addition temperature is 40°C ~~any claim which comprises addition of a solution of calcium chloride to a solution of a water soluble salt of (E) 7 [4 (4 fluorophenyl) 6 isopropyl 2 [methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin 5 yl](3R,5S) 3,5 dihydroxyhept 6 enoic acid over 5 to 60 minutes at a temperature of 30 to 45.degree. C., holding the mixture at a temperature of 30 to 45.degree. C. for at least 10 minutes, filtering, optionally washing, and drying of the resultant product~~.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 4, wherein the addition time is 15 to 30 minutes ~~any preceding claim wherein the addition temperature is adjusted to give a~~

~~product with a specific surface area less than or equal to 1 m.sup.2/g (measured by Fisher technique)~~.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 9, wherein the hold time is at least 15 minutes ~~any preceding claim wherein the addition temperature, addition time and hold time are adjusted to give a product with a specific surface area less than or equal to 1 m.sup.2/g (measured by Fisher technique)~~.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 10, wherein the hold time is at least 30 minutes ~~any preceding claim wherein the addition temperature, addition time and hold time are adjusted to give a product with a specific surface area less than or equal to 0.5 m.sup.2/g (measured by Fisher technique)~~.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 4, wherein the addition temperature is adjusted to give a product with a specific surface area less than or equal to 1 m^2/g as measured by Fisher technique ~~any preceding claim wherein the product has a paste strength of more than about 45% w/w~~.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 4, wherein the addition temperature, addition time and hold time are adjusted to give a product with a specific surface area less than or equal to 1 m^2/g as measured by Fisher technique ~~any preceding claim in which the product paste strength after a maximum of 15 minutes filtration on a laboratory scale is at least 50% w/w~~.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 4, wherein the addition temperature, addition time and hold time are adjusted to give a product with a specific surface area less than or equal to 0.5 m^2/g as measured by Fisher technique ~~any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the product is obtained with a paste strength of more than about 70% w/w~~.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 4, wherein the product has a paste strength of more than about 45% w/w ~~any preceding claim wherein the water soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid is an alkali metal salt~~.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 15, in which the product paste strength after a maximum of 15 minutes filtration on a laboratory scale is at least 50% w/w ~~any preceding claim wherein the water soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid is the sodium salt~~.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 16, wherein the product is obtained with a paste strength of more than about 70% w/w ~~any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the water soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6enoic acid is an ammonium salt, a methylamine salt or a TRIS salt~~.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1 or claim 4, ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ wherein the water soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid is an alkali metal salt ~~generated from the ammonium salt~~.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 18, wherein ~~any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the solution of~~ the water soluble salt of ~~is generated from~~ (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid is the sodium salt ~~or a salt thereof~~.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1 or claim 4, ~~19~~ wherein the water soluble salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-

[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid is an ammonium salt, a methylamine salt or a TRIS salt ~~is the sodium salt~~.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1 or claim 4, ~~20~~ wherein the water soluble salt ~~sodium salt is generated by treatment of an amine salt~~ of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid is generated from the ammonium salt ~~with a sodium base~~.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The ~~A~~ process according to claim 1 or claim 4, wherein the solution of the water soluble salt is generated from (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a salt thereof ~~21 where sodium base is sodium hydroxide~~.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The ~~A product obtainable by a~~ process according to claim 22, wherein the water soluble salt is the sodium salt ~~as claimed in any preceding claim~~.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The process according to claim 23, wherein the sodium salt is generated by treatment of an amine salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid with a sodium base ~~A product obtained by a process as claimed in any preceding claim~~.

Claim 25 (new): The process according to claim 24, wherein the sodium base is sodium hydroxide.